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**CLAIMS:**

What is claimed is:

1. A method for executing a function on a server in a distributed data processing system, the method comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

- receiving a request for a function, wherein the request comprises an input specifying a server name, wherein the server responds to requests directed to a set of server names; and
- executing the function in a server name context on the server as directed by the input specifying the server name.

1    2.    The method of claim 1 wherein the server name  
2    context on the server comprises a set of resources  
3    associated with a server name.

1     3.     The method of claim 2 further comprising identifying  
2     a membership of a resource within the set of resources  
3     for the server name context.

1 4. The method of claim 3 further comprising generating  
2 a server name tag for the server name, wherein the  
3 membership of the resource in the set of resources is  
4 identifiable by the server name tag associatively stored  
5 with the resource.

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1     5.     The method of claim 4 wherein the server name tag is  
2     generated based on a value of the server name and a value  
3     derived from a data structure that stores the server  
4     name.

1     6.     The method of claim 5 wherein the value derived from  
2     the data structure is a position value of the server name  
3     within a server name table that stores the set of server  
4     names.

1 7. The method of claim 1 wherein the request for the  
2 function is received from a network.

1 33/8. The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
2 locating the server name in an entry of a server  
3 name table;  
4 obtaining a location index for the entry; and  
5 generating a server name mask based on the location  
6 index.

1 9. The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
2 generating a server name mask based on the server  
3 name;  
4 retrieving a server name mask for a resource from a  
5 resource data structure; and  
6 comparing the generated server name mask with the  
7 retrieved server name mask to identify whether the  
8 resource is applicable to the server name.

1 10. The method of claim 9 further comprising:

2 repeatedly identifying a plurality of resources that  
3 are applicable to the server name by searching a  
4 plurality of resource data structures for matching server  
5 name masks.

154/12. A data processing system comprising:

1 13. The data processing system of claim 12 wherein the  
2 server name context on the server comprises a set of  
3 resources associated with a server name.

1 15. The data processing system of claim 14 further  
2 comprising generation means for generating a server name  
3 tag for the server name, wherein the membership of the

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4 resource in the set of resources is identifiable by the  
5 server name tag associatively stored with the resource.

1 16. The data processing system of claim 15 wherein the  
2 server name tag is generated based on a value of the  
3 server name and a value derived from a data structure  
4 that stores the server name.

1 17. The data processing system of claim 16 wherein the  
2 value derived from the data structure is a position value  
3 of the server name within a server name table that stores  
4 the set of server names.

18. The data processing system of claim 12 further comprising:

- locating means for locating the server name in an entry of a server name table;
- obtaining means for obtaining a location index for the entry; and
- generating means for generating a server name mask based on the location index.

1 19. The data processing system of claim 12 further  
2 comprising:  
3       generating means for generating a server name mask  
4 based on the server name;  
5       retrieving means for retrieving a server name mask  
6 for a resource from a resource data structure; and

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7 S comparing means for comparing the generated server  
8 name mask with the retrieved server name mask to identify  
9 whether the resource is applicable to the server name.

1    20. The data processing system of claim 19 further  
2    comprising:  
3       repeatedly identifying a plurality of resources that  
4    are applicable to the server name by searching a  
5    plurality of resource data structures for matching server  
6    name masks.

1. A computer program product on a computer readable medium for use in a data processing system, the computer program product comprising:

- first instructions for receiving a request for a function, wherein the request comprises an input specifying a server name, wherein the server responds to requests directed to a set of server names; and
- second instructions for executing the function in a server name context on the server as specified by the input containing the server name.

1 22. The computer program product of claim 21 wherein the  
2 server name context on the server comprises a set of  
3 resources associated with a server name.